

# Kuwait

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Kuwait GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Kuwait could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Kuwait GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Fourth Intermediate, First Secondary, and Second

Secondary, conducted in 2001. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Kuwait. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 94.8%, and the overall response rate was 94.8%. A total of 6330 students participated in the Kuwait GYTS.

### Prevalence

28.8% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 37.6%, Female = 17.6%)  
 27.0% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 33.3%, Female = 18.4%)  
 14.9% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 21.1%, Female = 6.7%)  
 20.4% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 24.1%, Female = 15.3%)  
 20.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

### Knowledge and Attitudes

26.8% think boys and 20.5% think girls who smoke have more friends  
 24.4% think boys and 17.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

21.2% usually smoke at home  
 24.6% buy cigarettes in a store  
 89.4% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

### Environmental Tobacco Smoke

45.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence  
 60.7% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
 80.8% think smoking should be banned from public places  
 64.4% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
 37.2% have one or more parents who smoke  
 11.9% have most or all friends who smoke

### Cessation - Current Smokers

63.9% want to stop smoking  
 27.6% tried to stop smoking during the past year  
 88.9% have ever received help to stop smoking

### Media and Advertising

68.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days  
 84.1% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days  
 88.9% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days  
 21.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo  
 26.7% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

### School

29.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking  
 30.0% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke  
 29.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

### Highlights

- 27% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 15% currently smoke cigarettes; 20% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – over 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; almost 4 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- Almost two-thirds think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Over 6 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- Almost 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.